

gorge the wind rushed, to creep through the fissures in the wall at the end of the passage.

And so the clift was rent right through! But where did the rift open out ?

They could not tell until they had reached the far end of it, supposing they found it possible to do so.

But for all that they stood like prisoners before whom the gaol doors have just opened !

It was barely eight o'clock, and there was plenty of time. They did not even discuss the question of sending Fritz or the boatswain on in advance to explore. Everyone wanted to go up the passage at once, without losing a minute.

" But we must take some provisions,"¹³ Jenny said. " Who can tell whether we shall not be away longer than we think ? "

" Besides," Fritz added, " have we any idea where we are going ? "

" Outside," the boatswain replied.

The simple word, so exactly expressing the general sentiment, answered everything.

But Captain Gould insisted that they should have breakfast first, also that they should take provisions for several days with them, in case they should be delayed.

Breakfast was hurried through.

After four
"months passed in this bay, they were
naturally in a
hurry to find out whether their
situation had
improved, perhaps even changed
entirely.